



U.S. Department
of Transportation
National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

In cooperation with

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Public Health Service



Health Resources & Services Administration
Maternal & Child Health Bureau

EMT-Paramedic National Standard Curriculum Washington State Amended



Paramedic Training Program Unit Terminal Objectives



Revised January 2000

EMT-Paramedic: National Standard Curriculum Washington State Amended

Unit Terminal Objectives

The “Unit Terminal Objectives” listed here are provided in accordance with the EMT-Paramedic: National Standard Curriculum document delivered to NHTSA in 1998 and subsequently amended by the Washington State Department of Health, Emergency Medical and Trauma Prevention. The Unit Terminal Objective identifies the performance standard educators will use to prepare competent paramedic students.

Module 1 – Preparatory

Unit Terminal Objective 1-1 To 1-6:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will understand his or her roles and responsibilities within an EMS system, including: the well-being of the paramedic, illness and injury prevention, medical /legal issues, ethics, and patients with special challenges.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lessons: Lesson 1-1: Roles and Responsibilities of the EMT-Paramedic, Lesson 1-2: The Well-Being of the Paramedic, Lesson 1-3: Illness and Injury Prevention, Lesson 1-4: Medical/ Legal Issues, Lesson 1-5: Ethics, Lesson 1-6: Patients with Special Challenges

Unit Terminal Objective 1-7:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to understand pathophysiology as it relates to the assessment and management of emergency patients.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 1-7: General Principles of Pathophysiology

Unit Terminal Objective 1-8:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to understand drugs, their effects on the human body, assessment findings necessary to provide emergency treatment.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 1-8: Pharmacology

Unit Terminal Objective 1-9:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to safely and precisely access the venous circulation and administer medications.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 1-9: Venous Access and Medication Administration

Unit Terminal Objective 1-10:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to effectively communicate with patients while providing care.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 1-10: Therapeutic Communications

Module 2 – Airway

Unit Terminal Objective 2-1:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to establish and/or maintain a patent airway, oxygenate and ventilate a patient.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 2-1: Airway Management and Ventilation

Module 3 – Patient Assessment

Unit Terminal Objective 3-1:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to use the appropriate techniques to obtain a medical history from a patient.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 3-1: History Taking

Unit Terminal Objective 3-2:

At the completion end of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to perform, record and interpret a physical exam.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 3-2: Techniques of Physical Examination

Unit Terminal Objective 3-3:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to integrate the history taking and physical findings to perform a patient assessment.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 3-3: Patient Assessment

Unit Terminal Objective 3-4:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to understand clinical decision making to help form a field impression.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 3-4: Clinical Decision Making

Unit Terminal Objective 3-5:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to present patient information in verbal form, either in person or over the radio.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 3-5: Communications

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Unit Terminal Objective 3-6:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to effectively document the essential elements of patient assessment, care and transport.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 3-6: Documentation

Module 4 – Trauma

Unit Terminal Objective 4-1:

At the completion of this unit, the Paramedic student will be able to prepare for the likelihood of injuries based on the patient's mechanism of injury.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 4-1: Trauma Systems and Mechanism of Injury

Unit Terminal Objective 4-2:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to assess and manage the patient with hemorrhage or shock.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 4-2: Hemorrhage and Shock

Unit Terminal Objective 4-3 to 4-9:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to assess and manage the patient with: soft tissue trauma, burns, head & facial trauma, spinal trauma, thoracic trauma, abdominal trauma, musculoskeletal trauma.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lessons: Lesson 4-3: Soft Tissue Trauma, Lesson 4-4: Burns, Lesson 4-5: Head and Facial Trauma, Lesson 4-6: Spinal Trauma, Lesson 4-7: Thoracic Trauma, Lesson 4-8: Abdominal Trauma, Lesson 4-9: Musculoskeletal Trauma

Module 5 – Medical

Unit Terminal Objective 5-1 to 5-8

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to assess and manage the patient with respiratory problems, cardiovascular disease, neurological problems, endocrine problems, allergic or anaphylactic reactions, gastrointestinal problems, renal/urologic problems and toxic exposure.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lessons: Lesson 5-1: Pulmonary, Lesson 5-2: Cardiology, Lesson 5-3: Neurology, Lesson 5-4: Endocrinology, Lesson 5-5: Allergies and Anaphylaxis, Lesson 5-6: Gastroenterology, Lesson 5-7: Renal/Urology, Lesson 5-8: Toxicology

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Unit Terminal Objective 5-9:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to understand the function of blood and its components.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 5-9: Hematology

Unit Terminal Objective 5-10:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to understand how to assess and manage patients suffering from problems related to temperature extremes, near drowning, diving emergencies, and altitude sickness.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: Lesson 5-10: Environmental Conditions

Unit Terminal Objective 5-11:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to assess and manage the patient with infectious and communicable diseases.

NOTE: Many of these cognitive objectives are covered in the Washington State curriculum *Infectious Disease Prevention for EMS Providers*, Rev. October 1997.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: 5-11: Infectious and Communicable Diseases

Unit Terminal Objective 5-12:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to provide safe care of the person with a behavioral emergency.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: 5-12: Behavioral and Psychiatric Disorders

Unit Terminal Objective 5-13 to 5-14:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to assess and manage the patient experiencing a gynecological or obstetrical emergency.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lessons: 5-13: Gynecology, 5-14: Obstetrics

Module 6 – Special Considerations

Unit Terminal Objective 6-1 to 6-3:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to assess and manage the neonate, pediatric and geriatric patient.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lessons: 6-1: Neonatology, 6-2: Pediatrics, 6-3: Geriatrics

Unit Terminal Objective 6-4:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to assess and manage the patient to include neonatal, pediatric and geriatric patients who have sustained abuse or assault.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: 6-4: Abuse and Assault

Unit Terminal Objective 6-5:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to assess and manage the acute deterioration of a chronic care patient.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: 6-5: Acute Interventions for the Chronic Care Patient

Module 7 – Assessment Based Management – (OPTIONAL LESSON)

Unit Terminal Objective 7-1:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to integrate the principles of assessment-based management to perform an appropriate assessment and implement the management plan for patients with common complaints.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: 7-1: Assessment Based Management

Module 8 – Operations

Unit Terminal Objective 8-1:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic will understand air medical transport.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: 8-1: Air Ambulance Operations

Unit Terminal Objective 8-2:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to integrate the principles of general incident management and multiple casualty incident (MCI) management techniques in order to function effectively at major incidents.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: 8-2: Medical Incident Command

Unit Terminal Objective 8-3

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to integrate the principles of rescue awareness and operations to safely rescue a patient from water, hazardous atmospheres, trenches, highways and hazardous terrain.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: 8-3: Rescue Awareness and Operations

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Unit Terminal Objective 8-4:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will be able to evaluate hazardous materials emergencies, call for appropriate resources and work in the cold zone.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: 8-4: Hazardous Materials Incidents

Unit Terminal Objective 8-5:

At the completion of this unit, the paramedic student will have an awareness of the human hazard of crime and violence and the safe operation at crime scenes and other emergencies.

This Unit Terminal Objective applies to the following lesson: 8-5: Crime Scene Awareness

Clinical Rotations

The following goals must be successfully accomplished in the clinical environment, on actual patients. Clinical experiences should occur after the student has demonstrated competence in skills and knowledge in the didactic and laboratory components of the course. Items in **bold** are essentials and must be completed. Items in *italics* are –minimum standards to achieve the essential. –Minimum standards are not the only way to achieve the essentials. They are based on survey data from Paramedic Program Directors, expert opinion, including input from representatives of Washington’s accredited paramedic training programs, the EMS Education, Licensing & Certification, and WSMA-EMS Standards Committees.

AGES

The student must demonstrate the ability to perform a competent and comprehensive assessment on pediatric, adult, and geriatric patients to the satisfaction of the training physician.

RESUSCITATIVE PHARMACOLOGY

The student must demonstrate competency to safely administer medications to the satisfaction of the training physician.

The student must demonstrate the ability to manage the pharmacology of resuscitation and understand the risks of emergency medications, including those appropriate for cardiac arrest to the satisfaction of the training physician.

PSYCHOMOTOR SKILLS

A. The student must demonstrate competency to perform endotracheal intubation to the satisfaction of the training physician.*

The student should safely, and while performing all steps of each procedure, successfully intubate at least 20 live patients.

B. The student must demonstrate competency to safely gain venous access to the satisfaction of the training physician.**

*The student should safely, and while performing all steps of each procedure, successfully access the venous circulation at least 25 times on live patients, and must demonstrate competency to the satisfaction of the training physician.
(Cannulation for the sole purpose of blood draws is excluded.)*

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C. The student must demonstrate the ability to effectively ventilate a patient.

While performing all steps of each procedure, the student should effectively demonstrate competency to the satisfaction of the training physician.

D. The student must demonstrate the ability to perform a comprehensive assessment of obstetric patients to the satisfaction of the training physician. (Observation time of "live" births is desirable.)

E. The student must demonstrate the ability to perform a comprehensive assessment on psychiatric patients to the satisfaction of the training physician.

F. The student must demonstrate competency to the satisfaction of the training physician in the ability to safely and effectively establish a central line. (Upon paramedic certification, must have county MPD approval.)

* For certified IV/Airway, Airway, or ILS/Airway Technicians, this requirement may be excluded at the discretion of the training program if the student can demonstrate competency to the satisfaction of the training physician.

** For certified IV, IV/Airway, or ILS Technicians, this requirement may be excluded at the discretion of the training program if the student can demonstrate competency to the satisfaction of the training physician.

Field Internship

The paramedic student must demonstrate the ability to assess and manage a minimum of 130 patients and document the care. The paramedic student must be evaluated in a third person environment by a paramedic proficient as a paramedic preceptor/evaluator and is not staffed or assigned as the regular on-duty paramedic. Specific patient contacts must be completed successfully according to the specific pathologies identified below:

PATHOLOGIES

A. Cardiac:

The student must demonstrate the ability to perform a comprehensive assessment on **15 cardiac patients**, which must include a sufficient number of critical cardiac patients to the satisfaction of the training physician. *(5 as the lead medic on patients suffering a cardiac arrest.)*

B. Trauma:

*The student must demonstrate the ability to perform a comprehensive assessment on **25 injured patients** to the satisfaction of the training physician. (5 as the lead medic.)*

C. Medical:

*The student must demonstrate the ability to perform a comprehensive assessment on **20 medical patients** to the satisfaction of the training physician. (5 as lead medic.)*

NOTES: